IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM

PRESENT :

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE S.SIRI JAGAN

FRIDAY, THE 25TH MAY 2007 / 4TH JYAISHTA 1929

WP(C).No. 15922 of 2007(U)

PETITIONER:

AGIKUMAR R.
244 AQ – ASHTTAMI,
KOZHUVALLOOR,
VENMONY – 689 521,
ALAPPUZHA DISTRICT.

BY ADV. SRI.K.RAVEENDRAN
SRI.ANIL KUMAR M.SIVARAMAN

RESPONDENTS:

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1. UNION OF INDIA,
REPRESENTED BY SECRETARY TO THE TELECOM DEPARTMENT,
NEW DELHI.

2. THE ACCOUNTS OFFICER (TRV),
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER,
TELECOM DEPARTMENT, ALAPPUZHA.

3. THE COMMERCIAL OFFICER,
BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LTD.,
TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, ALAPPUZHA.

4. THE TAHSILDAR (REVENUE RECOVERY)
CHENGANNUR.

5. THE VILLAGE OFFICER,
MULAKKUZHA, CHENGANNUR TALUK

BY ADV. SRI.MATHEWS K.PHILIP,SC, BSNL
SRI. P. PRABHAKARAN NAIR – CGC

THIS WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) HAVING COME UP FOR ADMISSION ON 25 /05 / 2007, THE COURT ON THE SAME DAY DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING:

S. SIRI JAGAN, J.

W.P.(C)NO.15922 OF 2007

DATED THIS THE 25th DAY OF MAY, 2007

JUDGMENT

The petitioner challenges telephone bills issued to him. According to him, the bills are inflated and does not represent the actual charges for use of his telephone. The petitioner's remedy in such case lies in raising arbitration dispute under Section 7B of the Telegraph Act.

2. I have heard the learned counsel for the petitioner as also the learned standing counsel appearing for the respondents.

3. I direct the 2nd respondent to refer the matter for arbitration under Section 7B of the Telegraph Act. Till the arbitrator decides the case, there would be a interim stay of recovery of the telephone charges demanded as per impugned bills on the petitioner paying 50% of the amount demanded within one month.

The writ petition is disposed of as above.

S. SIRI JAGAN, JUDGE

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